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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
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REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Political

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper

WHERE PUBLISHED Wa-fang-tien, Liaoning

DATE PUBLISHED 19 Nov 1948

LANGUAGE Chinese

DATE OF INFORMATION 1948

DATE DIST. 8 Apr 1949

NO. OF PAGES 3

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Liao-ning Jih-pao (Information requested.)

BUILDING UP THE CCP IN THE NORTHEAST

To build up a strong party closely akin to the masses, there must be definite and uniform adherence to the basic regulations of our Party. The regulations pertaining to the matter of openly building up the membership of the Party require observance of the following instructions:

I. GROUPS AND CLASSES TO BE MADE OBJECTS OF RECRUITING

In the Northeast the Party is still in the formative stage. We should recruit chiefly among laborers and progressive elements among poor farm employees, and revolutionary young intellectuals, strictly avoid adventurers, landlords, rich peasants, and vagrants. Note the following points:

1. In villages, aim for poor employees who have been active in reform, progressive laborers, and middle-class peasants who are alert and forward-looking. Delay in the case of those who have been wrongly attacked.

2. In cities, aim for factory workers (including skilled ones), handicraftsmen, coolies, lower echelon leaders, and revolutionary students and teachers, active leaders in New Democracy groups. Be cautious about the urban poor, for here there are often found refugee landlords, rich peasants, and reactionaries.

3. Among intellectuals and workers who command their own time is found suitable material tested by time and experienced in service and in revolutionary ideas. Younger persons should be probationary.

4. Those in higher ranks in KMT areas or who have joined other political parties, though already detached, should not be accepted at once, but considered cautiously, case by case regarding record and status. Those who are in social societies, such as the Ch'ing Pang and Hung Pang, or who profess religious faith must really withdraw from such societies and discard said faith before they can be admitted into the Party.

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5. Among the troops, active elements among laborers and poor farm employees should be admitted first, also such elements among tested middle-class peasants. Laborers should have been in the army a year or more. Landlords and sons of rich peasants who have been in the army 2 years or more and who have given every possible evidence of conversion and loyalty, may also be admitted.

6. Among all these groups to recruit from, special attention should be given to alert young women.

II. CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

In these recruiting fields, we should select progressive elements to enter the Party -- those whose status is good, record clear, work constructive, conduct orthodox, and those who are supported by the masses, and who have a modicum of political consciousness. Before one enters the Party, he must willingly acknowledge its principles and constitution, join one of the Party organizations, work for the Party, obey its decisions, observe its discipline, and pay its dues. This is the minimum political standard for a Party member. Without it, he should not be accepted. In consequence, before a new member enters the Party, the meaning of the Party principles and constitution must be succinctly explained to him publicly and directly, as instruction for entering. He can only be admitted to the Party after he makes application.

III. SPONSORS

In publicly building up the Party, when a new member enters he must have a sponsor before being approved. The sponsor must take definite responsibility regarding the candidate's politics, history, status, character, and thinking. This is one of the important bases for the committee approving his entering the party. Therefore, before presenting an application, the sponsor must carefully understand the candidate and give him the needed education, and only make application for him after he is fully familiar with all conditions.

In places where the Party is firmly established, the prescribed regulations regarding the number and qualifications of sponsors of applicants, must be rigidly observed. Where the Party has a weak or no foundation, laborers, coolies, poor farm employees, urban poor, and revolutionary soldiers may be sponsored by one member in good standing, but the admitting of other classifications must be according to rules.

IV. PROCEDURE OF ENTERING THE PARTY

Each person entering the Party must individually follow the procedure of entering. Where there is a branch, the candidate may be approved by the branch assembly after the masses have discussed it, and expressed an opinion, and the sponsor has talked with him, explained and filled out the blank. Then the district committee will be asked for approval. Where there is no branch, after a candidate has announced his desire to join the Party and has made out his application, and the sponsor has clearly explained its meaning, and it has been favorably discussed by the membership, the application may then be sent directly to the district committee to be approved. When the Party approves any new member, it should bear political and organizational responsibility for him. Therefore, it should insist upon the most careful checking at each step, and then make responsible decision, never allowing it to pass with a functionary's loose assent. No individual in the Party has the right to do that. Whoever enters the Party must do so according to prescribed procedure.

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V. CEREMONY OF ENTERING THE PARTY

After a new member has been accepted, there must be performed a solemn and dignified ceremony of entrance. The masses may be invited to take part. Party superiors shall appoint someone to preside over it. During the ceremony, beside reading of the oath, there shall be instruction on how to be a good Party member. This has great educational significance for the candidate and the masses.

VI. PERIOD OF PROBATION

Where the Party is firmly established, the length of probation in receiving a new member should be carried out according to the Party constitution. Where there is no Party organization or only a very weak one, the probation time is temporarily fixed at 3 months for laborers, coolies, poor farm employees, and revolutionary soldiers (until the Party gets a foundation, after which it follows the rules). Other classifications entering must follow the constitutional provisions.

Purpose of the probation period is to further examine the candidate's political quality, increase his political class education, give him fuller stability in revolutionary thinking and familiarity with the organization's and the masses' viewpoint. Therefore, the Party committee will feel responsible to examine the candidate from time to time, else probation loses its meaning. When the period expires, the assembly of the branch will decide to admit him or extend the probation. If the man is backward, or if after two extensions really cannot learn, he will be dropped from candidate status, and this should be made public. When he does enter the Party, the usual procedures and formalities will be observed. If there is delay, his membership shall count from the date when the probation period originally was to end.

Building up the Party is serious and solemn duty. It should be undertaken by the organizing section of each branch, not neglected or handed over to inexperienced persons. It is hoped that this duty will be taken seriously and much progress made. (Northeast Central Committee, CCP 26 October 1948)

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